Tehri Dam Project

78. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 272 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd September, 1991 and state whether the Tehri Dam Authorities have submitted the Disaster Management Plan to Government, if so, when and what are the details thereof and if not, the reasons for not taking any follow up action thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): No, Sir. The Disaster Management Plan for Tehri Dam Project has not yet been submitted as the Ministry of Power and Non-conventional Energy is interacting with appropriate agencies to get the plan prepared.

Spread of Flurosis Disease in the Country

79. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that flurosis disease is spreading in many parts of the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that despite protests from scientists and dentists the fluoridated toothpastes and mouth-washes are being pushed in the market;

(d) whether Government are also aware that flouride tablet and mouth rinses are being given in fluorosis endemic areas of the country; and

(e) if so, what remedial action Government have taken or propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Animals at the Delhi Zoo

80. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that animals at the Delhi Zoo were let off by opening their cages in the recent past by some unknown person;

(b) whether it is also a fact that after being let off, the animals were later killed by bullet or by intoxicant fired from air gun;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Zoo is surrounded by ever-increasing air and noise pollution caused by railway line on one side and by busy road on the other side; and

(e) what action Government have taken for safety of animals both from being killed and from air and noise pollution in Delhi Zoo?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) No animals were let off in National Zoological Park by opening their cages in the recent past. However 13 Wild Boars had accidentally escaped after breaking the fence of their enclosure in April, 1991. These animals were tranquilised, captured and kept in a temporary krall till the renovation of the fence. During the stay in krall over a period of about 4 months 4 animals died due to infighting and traumatic shock.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) All possible preventive and precautionay measures are taken to protect Zoo animals. Tree plantation has been maintained along the boundary of the Zoo to minimise the effects of air and noise pollution in the Zoo.